

Status of claims 1 - 20

S.N. 10/668,897, filed 09/23/2003

R. Giovanni Fima

1.(currently amended) A system for monitoring and controlling
water flow and consumption in a water-based system, wherein said water
flows through a conduit from a water supply to at least one component in
which water flow is an operating condition of said at least one said
5 component, said system comprising:

[a] at least one sensor for monitoring [a] said water flow and
consumption ~~[parameter]~~ in ~~[a]~~ said water-based system and for
generating signals indicative of the operation thereof;
at least one interface module for receiving signals from [the]
10 said at least one sensor;
~~[a]~~ at least one fluid control device operable with ~~[the]~~ a said at
least one interface module for limiting the water flow and consumption in
~~[the]~~ said water-based system; and
a power panel for receiving a processor and said at least one of
15 said interface modules, said processor being in communication with at
least one said interface module for interpreting signals from said sensor.

2.(canceled)

3.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein
~~[the]~~ said at least one sensor comprises a fluid flow sensor to sense the
water flow within a component of the water-based system.

4.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~[the]~~ said at least one sensor comprises a pressure sensor connected to sense the pressure inside a said component of ~~[the]~~ said water-based system to generate an output signal when the sensor pressure exceeds a predetermined threshold.

5.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~[the]~~ said at least one fluid control device comprises a valve in said water supply line.

6.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~[the]~~ said at least one interface module controls ~~[the]~~ a said fluid control device for disconnecting a water or energy source from ~~[the]~~ said water-based system.

7.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 1, wherein the processor receives ~~[the]~~ a signal from ~~[the]~~ said at least one sensor, and in response thereto, communicates with ~~[the]~~ said at least one interface module to close the valve in ~~[the]~~ said water supply line.

8.(canceled)

9.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 1, including a motherboard with a communication port enabling communications via ~~[the]~~ said processor.

10.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 9, wherein ~~[the]~~ said motherboard includes an information port for establishing a computer network interface.

11.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 10, wherein ~~[the]~~ said at least one interface module is configured by a remote computer via ~~[the]~~ said information port.

12.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 11, wherein ~~[the]~~ said at least one interface module is operable to configure an internet website.

13.(currently amended) A method for monitoring and controlling water flow and consumption in a water-based system, wherein said water flows through a conduit from a water supply to at least one component in which water flow is an operating condition of said at least one

5 component, said system comprising:

generating signals indicative of a water consumption parameter sensed from ~~[a]~~ said water-based system:

receiving the generated signals to monitor the water consumption parameter;

10 operating a fluid control device for limiting the water consumption in response to the received signal; and

information processing of the received signal providing a communication interface for interpreting signals.

14.(currently amended)) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein ~~[the]~~ said water-based system resides in a ~~[habitat]~~ residential structure requiring monitoring and control of the water flow and consumption thereof.

15.(currently amended) A method as recited in claim 13, wherein ~~[the]~~ said water-based system is a tank-less toilet comprising measurement and control of the water metered through ~~[the]~~ said tank-less toilet ~~[system]~~.

16.(currently amended) A system for monitoring and controlling water flow and consumption in a water-based system, wherein said water flows through a conduit from a water supply to at least one component in which water flow is an operating condition of said at least one said component, said system comprising:

at least one sensor for monitoring a water parameter in ~~[a]~~ said water-based system;

5 a processor in communication with the at least one said sensor and for monitoring and controlling the water flow and consumption; and

a fluid control device operable with ~~[the]~~ said processor for limiting the consumption of water in the water-based system.

17.(currently amended) The system as recited in claim 16, wherein ~~[the]~~ processor is in a housing providing a circuit box for receiving the at least one said sensor and receiver, each of the at least one said sensor ~~[or]~~ and receiver acting as a circuit breaker of the monitored

18.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 16, wherein ~~[the]~~ said processor is connected to a network bi-directional data communications device.

19.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 16, wherein ~~[the]~~ said processor is connected to a multi media interface for interactive video communicationa, for identifying a location in which the monitored water-based system operates.

20.(currently amended) A system as recited in claim 16, ~~[and]~~ including a motherboard for receiving said processor, the motherboard having a connection for electronically communicating with one or more processors on other motherboards.